

REMARKS

The basis for the restriction requirement is in error as between the Group I and II claims, and Applicants request that they be rejoined. The Office alleges that the product claimed be made by another and materially different process as by random polymerization. This is incorrect. The claimed products are aqueous polymer dispersions or polymer powders prepared therefrom, which contain two materially different polymers in the same dispersion, or in the same polymer powders prepared therefrom. Such compositions cannot be prepared by random copolymerization, which would result in a single copolymer, not a mixture of two copolymers. The product of Group I can only be made by the process of Group II, and the process of Group II only makes the product of Group I.

As to the election of species, for copolymer A, Applicants elect copolymers prepared from styrene, butylacrylate, methacrylic acid, and acrylamide. For copolymer B, Applicants elect copolymers prepared from styrene, butyl acrylate, and glycidyl methacrylate. Preferred monomers for both the A and B polymers are styrene and alkylacrylates, and vinyl esters and alkylacrylates (and methacrylates). Functional monomers for the A) and B) polymers are listed on page 5, line 11 to page 5, line 24.

The compositions of Group I are either aqueous dispersions or polymer powders. The polymers are preferably prepared by emulsion, polymerization, and then mixed together, producing a dispersion containing polymers A) and B), which can be used as such, or which is preferably spray dried to produce a polymer powder.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this application is requested. If the Examiner notes any minor errors, she is invited to telephone the undersigned so that the matter can be promptly handled by Examiner's amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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